

Date: 4 April 2018
 Opposition: Manchester City
 Competition: Champions League

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4 April 2018

THE TIMES

City routed as Klopp plays on Pep's fears

Liverpool Salah 12, Oxlade-Chamberlain 20, Mané 31 3 Manchester City 0
 Manchester City ran into a wall of noise and a swarm of red last night. Liverpool were magnificent, attacking devastatingly in the first half and defending maturely in the second, but they were gifted the initiative by Pep Guardiola's calamitous mistake in preferring İlkay Gündoğan, who resembled a feather in the Anfield storm, to the fired-up Raheem Sterling. Sterling arrived shortly into the second half and brought some real attacking threat, but Liverpool were three goals to the good by then. Liverpool were so good, too good for City. James Milner, Jordan Henderson and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain were superb, and Jürgen Klopp's full backs, Trent Alexander-Arnold and Andrew Robertson, were defiance personified.

Some City fans were singing about Liverpool being obsessed with history and "living in the past", but that astonishing first 30 minutes of football hinted at anything but. City had more possession but Liverpool had the pace, the passion and the three goals. When City conduct the inquest into events in the opening half-hour, they may talk of the psychological damage wrought on Guardiola's players when their coach was ambushed on the approaches to Anfield. They can talk of that, if they like, and it was undeniably distressing, but the focus should be more on Guardiola's surprisingly cautious tactics and line-up that sent out the wrong message. Leaving Sterling on the bench, and inserting Gündoğan was a clear mistake by Guardiola, as it hinted at fear, that rarest of traits in the Catalan's august career. Gündoğan was poor, lightweight in the tackle, and it was a surprise that he lasted 56 minutes, when Guardiola accepted his error and removed him for Sterling. City improved after that but so much damage had been inflicted on them early. Shots on City, though the same overall Guardiola was trying to swamp Liverpool in midfield, but Klopp was ready and simply unleashed the speed in his squad. Until his groin tweaked, Mohamed Salah was running at Aymeric Laporte from the first minute and Sadio Mané was racing behind Kyle Walker. But it was the verve and audacity of Klopp's full backs that also caught City out. Robertson could have been dealing in the first half with Sterling, one of the favourites for the PFA Young Player of the Year given his vibrant, prolific form. Instead, he found himself facing Gündoğan at times, and was not worried about that, and he tore upfield, needing Fernandinho to chase back at one point. Guardiola switched Kevin De Bruyne across after 35 minutes, and then ended the failed Gündoğan experiment early in the second half. Gündoğan looked overwhelmed by the Anfield effect. Over on Liverpool's right, Klopp had clearly told Alexander-Arnold to be bold, and ask Leroy Sané some questions rather than the other way around. Guardiola's plan appeared to be targeting Alexander-Arnold with balls switched from right to left, but the 19-year-old stood firm and responded by attacking. City were soon back-peddalling, rocked by Liverpool's ambition. Salah's name had been sung by fans three hours before kick-off as they gathered outside The Arkles pub in anticipation of the coaches' arrival — City's bus was ambushed and damaged, and there could be repercussions from Uefa — and they were singing his name again within 12 minutes. Klopp's plan was simple, win the ball quickly, with James Milner, Jordan Henderson and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain dervishes in the middle, and attack fast. And so began Liverpool's lightning raids. Milner drilled the ball down the right, and Salah was off and running, eluding Laporte — who'd have guessed? — and then Walker before sliding the ball forward to Roberto Firmino. With Nicolás Otamendi abject and soon prostrate in trying to deal with Firmino, the Brazilian's shot was blocked but Walker failed to clear, and the ball fell to Salah, who calmly swept it into the net. Liverpool sensed blood. Milner was outstanding. Oxlade-Chamberlain was clearly in the mood to inflict pain, and spun past Fernandinho with almost arrogant ease in the centre circle. As the clock showed 20 minutes, Milner was far too strong for Gündoğan, and the ball was at the feet of Oxlade-Chamberlain.

With Sané bizarrely not getting involved and Vincent Kompany too slow to react, Oxlade-Chamberlain did not hesitate and thundered the ball into the net before Ederson could react. City last a shot on against United in Cup Sané is a fine player but he can't stop like that and allow Oxlade-Chamberlain a split second. Guardiola turned away, closing his eyes, and throwing out his hands in disbelief, looking almost contemptuous at the concession of such a goal. City's defence was a shambles. Laporte, a good centre back but struggling badly out of position at left back, was not alone in his private ordeal. Walker was troubled by Robertson and Mané. Kompany and Otamendi looked like strangers in the night, lacking understanding and so sluggish in dealing with danger. They looked old. City lacked Liverpool's hunger until the second half. Firmino set the scene for the third, pressing the opposition with classic Klopp-approved vigour in midfield, and then Salah took up the running. It was all about momentum with Liverpool, not easing up, and even when Salah's first cross was blocked, he swiftly regained the ball and lifted it towards the far post. Again City's defence was chaos on legs with only Fernandinho and Walker back defending against the onrushing Firmino, Mané and Milner. Mané was sharpest, heading unerringly past Ederson. Salah then limped away, and was replaced by Georginio Wijnaldum, who stepped into midfield with the exceptional Oxlade-Chamberlain moving to the right. With Gareth Southgate in attendance, Oxlade-Chamberlain's excellence was particularly well timed. City still had the ball, and Sané made some threatening runs in from the left, but Liverpool demonstrated their resilience as they defended at the Kop end. Sterling's arrival had increased the decibel level, if that

were possible. He did escape from Robertson with 15 minutes remaining, but his cross was at an awkward height for Gabriel Jesus, who hooked his effort wide. Again Klopp impressed. He removed Firmino and simply set City another problem by sending on Dominic Solanke, who ran himself into the ground hounding Guardiola's defenders. Liverpool's pressing was immense and intense but Henderson went too far and caught Sterling, earning a booking which rules him out of next week's second leg. With Salah possibly missing too, City may believe they have a faint chance, and Sterling has to start.

the guardian

Liverpool's stunning first-half salvo leaves Manchester City's hopes on rocks

Everybody knew what Jürgen Klopp meant when he said, more than once, that the tie was still not over. Liverpool, he reminded us, had already [lost by five goals at Manchester City earlier in the season](#). So, yes, it was easy to understand why the victorious manager wanted to sound a note of caution at the end of a thrilling night for the club depicted by one of the banners on the Kop proclaiming "European royalty." All the same, it would be a remarkable feat of escapology if City were to save themselves now and if Klopp's side can play like this again maybe the [Liverpool](#) supporters could be forgiven for wondering whether this will be the season to update all those others banners showing the various years — 1977, 1978, 1981, 1984, 2005 — when the European Cup has resided inside Anfield's trophy cabinet. OK, perhaps best not to get too carried away just yet but Liverpool could hardly have wished for a more [emphatic victory](#). They swept aside City with a 19-minute blitz of first-half goals and, to put it into context, if Liverpool can score in the second leg it will mean Pep Guardiola's team need five. One certainty is that Klopp will not see it as a night for conservatism and, judging by the way City defended here, the five-time winners should be confident about adding to their total when they head along the M62 next Tuesday night.

Liverpool certainly kept to their promise that they would not be cowed by the fact their opponents, lest it be forgotten, are currently 18 points above them at the top of the Premier League. A more restrained team — not least some of the great Liverpool sides who have won this competition — might have tried to slow down the game once they had raced into a 2-0 lead inside the opening 20 minutes. Not Klopp's team, though. Why put on the handbrake when everyone was having so much fun? Then Mohamed Salah clipped in a ball from the right and Sadio Mané headed in their third goal, with half an hour on the clock, and Liverpool still went searching for more. To hell with conservatism — this was the modern Liverpool, high on confidence, with a front three who could trouble any defence, let alone one looking as vulnerable as City's. Klopp's view was that the only way to take on the Premier League champions-in-waiting was [to attack with pace and adventure](#), pin back the opposition full-backs and hope, perhaps, to catch Vincent Kompany and Nicolás Otamendi having a poor evening. After that, Klopp needed his players to be ruthless and he got all of that during the period of the game when Salah and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain also scored. For City, that made the opening 30 minutes a calamity and Oxlade-Chamberlain certainly chose a good night to produce the outstanding moment of his Liverpool career to date. He struck his shot with the kind of power that might have reminded Liverpool fans about the way Terry McDermott used to drive through the middle and let fly from 25 yards. It was a tremendous finish but the chance would never have even presented itself were it not for James Milner dispossessing İlkay Gündoğan inside his own half. Gündoğan was caught on the ball and that little snapshot felt typical of how the first half ran away from the team in blue. Guardiola had left out Raheem Sterling to involve Gündoğan, with Kevin De Bruyne starting in a more withdrawn role than usual, and Gabriel Jesus having to make do without the support in attack he might usually receive. Guardiola was entitled to think Sterling has played poorly on his previous returns to Anfield but perhaps City's manager might have been better off sticking with his usual tactics. Jesus looked isolated at times, especially with Leroy Sané clinging to the left, and it was not a surprise when De Bruyne switched to a more attacking right-sided position in the second half. Sterling was brought on in the 56th minute, meaning De Bruyne then took up the No 10 role, and Salah's withdrawal with an injury four minutes earlier also had an impact on how the rest of the second half took shape. For the first time, Liverpool started to look like a team whose priority was to ensure they kept a clean sheet rather than one trying to extend their lead. Even then, City seldom threatened to score and it was difficult to think of the last time they have looked so ineffective going forward. Guardiola's players had plenty of the ball but Loris Karius, Liverpool's goalkeeper, was seldom troubled. Liverpool will desperately hope Salah is available for the second leg and it is inconceivable City will be so vapid again. Yet the opening goal was also a reminder that it might suit Liverpool if they have to play on the counterattack. City had passed the ball with great elegance during the opening exchanges but the game slipped away from them as soon as Salah's pass gave Roberto Firmino the first chance to test Ederson, the away team's goalkeeper. The shot came back off Ederson and Kyle Walker could not adjust his feet. Firmino had Salah to his left and the Egyptian's 38th goal of the season put Liverpool on their way to a raucous victory.

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Mohamed Salah, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Sadio Mane score in first-half blitz as Jurgen Klopp's side take control of Champions League quarter-final with emphatic win

Maybe they're still running now, this Liverpool team. Maybe, as the sun rises over Anfield on Thursday morning, there will still be men in red shirts, chasing, harrising, closing down, sprinting away, as if their lives depended on it.

This is Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool. This is what they do. He called for bravery, he called for a team that was unafraid of Manchester City, that would dare to make history, and he got it. He got a response that swept the best team in Britain off the pitch, that sent Pep Guardiola and Manchester City back along the M62 vanquished, humbled. Some will say the tie is not over but if Liverpool play like this again, it is. The level of defensive commitment, the tirelessness, the ferocity – well, City could not live with it. We expected goals, and got them, but we expected them shared between two teams standing toe to toe, and instead all went one way. Liverpool were magnificent, delivering arguably the performance of the season, by any English club. Clinical on occasions, but mighty in their defensive resilience, too. Loris Karius did not have a shot to save against a group of players that have been relentless in their attacking ambition this season.

Liverpool's midfield were the stars. James Milner, Jordan Henderson, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain – as names on a team-sheet they appeared dwarfed by City's stellar equivalent, yet this was their night. They protected the defensive line, they hassled City's creators to the point of madness. Guardiola's side looked lost in a way they have not all season – even here in January, losing 4-3.

This was, as the scoreline suggests, an improvement. A complete, emphatic triumph of will and spirit, backed by ferocious noise that only Anfield on European nights conjures. This was a marker thrown down for this season, and the next, too – a result that says Liverpool are the real deal.

They have the beating of the best team in the land, so next year might be interesting, and if they can do this to City now, might they also be able to do it to Barcelona, Bayern Munich or Real Madrid, this season too?

Liverpool might not be the champions of Spain, as Barcelona surely will be, or of Germany like Bayern Munich, or champions of Europe like Madrid; but they have heart and an appetite for European occasions that is close to unmatched in English football. Jurgen Klopp watches on as Liverpool star Mohamed Salah receives treatment early in the second-half on Wednesday

Here's the difference. Manchester City thought the usual, the plan A that had served them so magnificently throughout this season, would be enough. Liverpool knew that this was different. It demanded more of them, so they gave more – the way Mo Farah does in his last lap, or Steven Redgrave's Olympic rowers did over the final 500 metres. This game was an apex for Liverpool under Klopp – and, if one recalls the match against Borussia Dortmund, there have been some contenders. Ultimately, it was not just the Manchester City bus that was harmed. Retreating from Liverpool, the tie near lost, their coach was looking pretty damaged, too. For Pep Guardiola to say the way his team played suited Liverpool perfectly was an astonishing admission on the eve of such a big game. For him then to stick to that plan was just perverse. Maybe playing four at the back and omitting Raheem Sterling from his starting line up was Guardiola making concessions. If so, it didn't work. Nobody wants a pragmatic Manchester City or Guardiola. Nobody wants cat and mouse. Yet was there a way City could have set up that did not leave them so vulnerable to Liverpool's front three? It's not as if plan A had worked here as it had elsewhere, Liverpool away being City's sole defeat of the Premier League season. What cannot be denied is that, by comparison, Klopp got all he demanded from his team, maybe even more.

Guardiola talked up the maturity of players like Gabriel Jesus, but the best young player on the pitch was Trent Alexander-Arnold, who stood up to Leroy Sane tremendously. And, whatever possession statistics show, Liverpool's win was well deserved. The first was against the run of play; the second a shot from way out. Yet by the time Liverpool made it three, nobody could argue there wasn't sufficient merit in this performance. A lead of that enormity against a team as good as City isn't achieved by accident. The ferociousness of Klopp's men, the sheer volume of work and energy expounded was quite stunning. Liverpool controlled a midfield that had been rampant across Stanley Park on Saturday night. As committed as the defence were, so the forwards were terrifying. No team will approach a fixture at Anfield without a degree of trepidation after this. Not just the reception en route because any player of significance will have seen inhospitable crowds before – and not the noise because there is plenty of that around Europe on Champions League nights, too. Liverpool's strength is that the passion in the ground finds its echo on the pitch.

An old cliché, sure, but Klopp's players do seem to want it more. They fired into tackles, their recovery sprints were lung-bursting, their forward runs courageous and committed. Seeing Sane, brilliant though he is, watch Oxlade-Chamberlain for Liverpool's second encapsulated the difference.

That Liverpool's first goal was scored at a time when Manchester City had recorded 76 per cent possession sums up the difference between having the ball, and sticking it in the net. Sane had tested Liverpool with a brilliant dribble through three men into the penalty area, his shot deflected for a corner, but most of City's good work had been done controlling the rhythm and tempo of the game. It was being played at their pace, to their specification. And then a

momentary lapse later, and it was not.

Mohamed Salah was left unguarded on the halfway line, which is a bit like leaving Winnie the Pooh to his own devices around honey. What followed was entirely predictable. Salah got the ball – he was a sliver offside, but by a margin that was not outrageous, and this happens – and broke for goal at electrifying speed. He fed Roberto Firmino, whose shot was weak but wasn't well dealt with by Ederson. Kyle Walker should have cleared it, maybe twice, but it fell to Salah in a position very similar to his goal in Porto. As on that night, he made no mistake. From there, City fell apart. They were two goals down after 20 minutes, three behind after 31. Liverpool had one of those spells where stuff just worked. They gambled, and won. They were brave. They were what Klopp asked them to be. Oxlade-Chamberlain was superb and his goal was just reward for the sort of display that Arsene Wenger rarely extracted from him at Arsenal. A tussle in midfield went Liverpool's way, naturally, and Milner fed Oxlade-Chamberlain who took a chance with a shot from 25 yards – a chance that paid off as Ederson gasped at air. Scenes. Flares. Maybe a UEFA fine. That wasn't going to dampen anyone's night, and when Sadio Mane added a third the only reason the roof wasn't actually raised was because some Liverpool fans were perhaps dumb with disbelief. Salah had a shot; Vincent Kompany blocked it. Salah tried again, this time with subtlety – a lovely dinked cross that was met by Mane between two blue shirts heading downwards into goal. Henderson will be missing for the return, suspended, and maybe Salah too, if his groin injury does not clear in a week. And of course, Barcelona came from four down against Paris St Germain and Liverpool have surrendered three against everyone from Sevilla to Crystal Palace. Yet it looks as if the damage is already done. Some will blame pre-match intimidation, but that's too easy. What scared City was on the field, not on the streets.

MATCH FACTS, PLAYER RATINGS AND MATCH ZONE

Liverpool (4-3-3): Karius 7, Alexander-Arnold 8, van Dijk 8, Lovren 8, Robertson 8, Milner 8.5, Henderson 7.5, Oxlade-Chamberlain 9 (Moreno 85), Salah 8 (Wijnaldum 52), Firmino 7.5 (Solanke 71), Mane 8 Subs not used: Mignolet, Clyne, Ings, Masterson Booked: Henderson Goalscorers: Salah 12, Oxlade-Chamberlain 20, Mane 31 Manager: Jurgen Klopp 8.5

Manchester City (4-3-3): Ederson 6, Walker 5, Otamendi 5, Kompany 6, Laporte 4.5, Gundogan 5 (Sterling 57), Fernandinho 6, Silva 6, De Bruyne 6, Jesus 4.5, Sane 5.5 Subs not used: Bravo, Danilo, Stones, Delph, Bernardo Silva, Zinchenko Booked: Otamendi, Jesus, De Bruyne, Sterling Manager: Pep Guardiola 5.5 Referee: Felix Brych

The Daily Telegraph

Liverpool goal blitz leaves City shell-shocked

Liverpool 3 Salah 12, Oxlade-Chamberlain 20, Mane 31 Manchester City 0 Att: 50,685 Jurgen Klopp had told Liverpool to "write our own history" and they did just that with another famous European night at Anfield as Manchester City were overwhelmed and overpowered in this amazing Champions League quarter-final. No one predicted this. Whether even a three-goal lead is enough against this free-scoring City remains to be seen in next week's second leg in Manchester, but what an occasion this was for Liverpool, for Klopp, and for this evocative stadium and the delighted supporters it holds. For Pep Guardiola it was a nightmare. He got it all wrong, tactically, and while the City team bus was damaged in inexcusably mindless scenes by some home fans beforehand, the wheels came off on the pitch. Liverpool played with their hearts but also with their heads. There will be concern, though, over Mohamed Salah, who limped off early in the second half with an apparent groin injury while captain Jordan Henderson will miss the second leg through suspension. "Anfield is unique. It lives, it breathes. It gives us strength," is one verse on a mural on a wall inside the stadium and how those words rang true as the chants rang around again and again. They even kept a clean sheet. Each of their defenders was magnificent, while Salah, obviously, scored. Legend is being writ again in a competition that means so much to Liverpool. City wilted. If they exit this tie questions will be asked as to why their players could not cope and, also, why Guardiola, having said he would not change the way his team played, appeared to do just that.

In an extraordinary half an hour, Liverpool scored. And then scored again. And again. "Allez, allez, allez," sang the home fans, relentlessly, as they embraced their new anthem and their team did just that. Except they did not throw themselves at City until they scored through a typically opportunistic Salah goal. Then they went full-throttle. The first goal came through a rapid break. Salah cut in from the right, after being picked out by Dejan Lovren, and played the ball to Roberto Firmino, who checked back, buying space against Nicolas Otamendi, who stumbled as he challenged, with keeper Ederson pushing out the striker's low shot.

Even then Kyle Walker should have cleared, but fatally hesitated, with Firmino poking the ball to Salah ... and we know what then happens. The net bulged. Goal No38. Salah swept his shot nervelessly into the net, even though Ederson got a hand to it and maybe, in doing so, stopped Vincent Kompany from possibly clearing off the line. For the second, James Milner slammed into a tackle, sending the ball to Oxlade-Chamberlain, who took it in his stride and arrowed a brilliant shot past Ederson from 25 yards. No City player closed Oxlade-Chamberlain down. Anfield erupted and Liverpool were rampant. Between the first two goals City should themselves have scored with Leroy Sane running through as they countered and the Liverpool defence, for once, depleted. Sane had the unmarked

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Kevin De Bruyne to his left, but instead of passing, he dragged a low shot wide of a post. De Bruyne was understandably furious. There had been a tactical tweak by Guardiola, an attempt to gain more midfield control, with his formation switched to a 4-2-3-1 and Raheem Sterling sacrificed. Having struggled in his three previous returns to Anfield, the forward was benched, with maybe the theory also being that his presence in the City team might whip up the home fans even more. If that was at all possible. It did not work. City had early control but were then over-run through that burst of goals. De Bruyne was too deep, the Liverpool full-backs Trent Alexander-Arnold and Andrew Robertson bombed on and even Ederson - strangely as he had done here in the league defeat in January - looked unsure. City were all at sea, disorganised and, when Salah crossed, Mane was able to plant a header from just six yards past the goalkeeper. It had come about after Otamendi, who had endured a terrible time, had rashly ran out with the ball. On the touchline Guardiola slumped his shoulders, surely in disbelief and acknowledgement that he had got this wrong. He could not wait to get his players in for half-time and to stem the bleeding, halt the panic and the final act of this amazing first 45 minutes was Virgil van Dijk, who had been imperious, heading narrowly over from yet another cross.

Aymeric Laporte had also been exposed at left-back while Gabriel Jesus had been badly isolated in attack. Guardiola had got it so wrong, but did not make any halftime changes, although he switched De Bruyne, so that he was further forward, with Ilkay Gundogan and they could have pulled a goal back quickly had Sane been a bit more accurate when picked out well by Fernandinho. Instead, he half-volleyed across goal and wide. Finally Guardiola turned to Sterling - who was inevitably booed - to replace the ineffective Gundogan as Liverpool also adjusted to the loss of Salah. It felt like a switch of momentum with Klopp urging his side to push up the pitch as City drove forward. Guardiola turned back to his usual 4-3-3 system with Sane increasingly threatening and only an intervention from Lovren preventing David Silva from reaching his cutback. Could City get that goal back? De Bruyne crossed dangerously, but the ball bounced off Silva. They could not give themselves a lifeline. Liverpool (4-3-3) Karius; Alexander-Arnold, van Dijk, Lovren, Robertson; Milner, Henderson, Oxlade-Chamberlain (Moreno 85); Salah (Wijnaldum 52), Firmino (Solanke 70), Mane. Subs: Mignolet (g), Clyne, Ings, Masterson. Booked Henderson.

Manchester City (4-2-3-1) Ederson; Walker, Otamendi, Kompany, Laporte; Gundogan (Sterling 57), Fernandinho; D Silva De Bruyne, Sane; Jesus. Subs: Bravo (g), Danilo, Stones, Delph, B Silva, Zinchenko. Booked Otamendi, Jesus, De Bruyne. Referee Felix Brych (Germany).

THE INDEPENDENT

Liverpool blow Manchester City away in first-half blitz to take charge of Champions League quarter-final

After a magical Liverpool FC night that lived up to every effusive word ever uttered about Anfield, Pep Guardiola and Manchester City are now going to have live up to all the hype about them to turn this tie around. The Catalan will maybe have to produce his greatest feat of management yet, or something at least as wondrous as Jurgen Klopp conjured here for this coruscating 3-0 victory that itself will match anything this great old ground has seen in Europe. That's the scale of the task for City in the second leg, that's how magnificent Liverpool were.

It was amazing to think that the utterly thrashed visitors could be crowned the most commanding ever English champions as soon as Saturday, because it's been a long time since they have been made to look this callow, this out of ideas, this poor. City's night started with their bus getting smashed up, and just got worse.

The only blemish for Liverpool is the second-half injury to the dominant Mohamed Salah, although Klopp said afterwards the player said he was "fine". The consequences of that remain to be seen, but the consequences of Liverpool's gameplan were already ruinous for City. There was actually nothing really special or sophisticated to that gameplan in terms of tactics in setting up this special night, other than Klopp realising how to maximise his main weapon. It is a relatively simple one that remains the most dangerous in the game: pure pace. Speed. It was weaved to brilliant effect. The real key, though, was that Liverpool successfully set a pace that City couldn't match even when Klopp's team began to naturally subside. That is also where the real inquest will come about the game for Guardiola, and why exactly this happened. One of many remarkable - well, really, astounding - aspects of this game was that City had actually started it the better team. Guardiola had obviously been extremely mindful of the ruinous effect of that rampaging pace. So mindful, in fact, that his entire gameplan seemed to be set up around it. That backfired badly. Liverpool were just too fearsome on the front foot. In so evidently trying to take the sting out of any fast Liverpool start by slowing the pace of the match, City took all sting out of their own game, and were just completely unable to match it when Klopp's men drastically upped that pace. The visitors couldn't raise themselves. They were so flatfooted, as was seen in so many big moments. That was never more obvious than the moment that set the pattern of the game. Although City had been somewhat successful in suffocating the match in the first 10 minutes, it was undone as quickly by a Salah run. He stormed through the City half on 11 minutes, with Guardiola's backline literally struggling to stay on their feet in response, and the ball eventually came back for the Egyptian to continue his gloriously prolific season. The second goal didn't come from the same type of counter, but did come from the same Liverpool power against City ponderousness. As Fernandinho

and Vincent Kompany could only half-clear an attack, Oxlade-Chamberlain responded by making the fullest possible connection with the ball. A better goal this season you will struggle to see. A purer strike you just will not see. It summed up the difference between the sides, something made all the clearer a moment later. As David Silva stood with the ball on the edge of the Liverpool box taking his time to pick out a pass, James Milner just charged back to thunderously win it off him. This was what it was coming down to. While every City player looked so sluggish, Liverpool looked like scoring from every attack. So they duly did exactly that from the next one. Salah was afforded so much time to pick a cross, and Sadio Mane was afforded the space in the box to pick his spot with a close-ranger header. Anfield was absolutely rocking, City were just absolutely rocked. Really, they were worse than rocked. They looked stunned, as if they couldn't quite believe what was happening, and didn't know how to get themselves out of this. At that point, Guardiola's pointed pre-match words seemed all the more relevant. "What I admire the most from the important teams is in the bad moments they are calm, they remain calm," the Catalan had said. "In the bad moments, the opponents are attacking and it looks like I am taking a cup of coffee because I know my chance is coming." He didn't look like he was taking a cup of coffee, nor did his team look anyway calm. A chance did present itself, mind, but because of blind fortune rather than City force. Salah had to go off injured, replaced by Gini Wijnaldum. The entire mood around Anfield had shifted, from one of excitable anticipation to edgy anxiety, as City finally began to have more of the ball.

It was just that Guardiola's side hadn't yet shifted gears. Sure, they had more of that ball, but they were still so sluggish and sloppy with it. It was as if the early approach had terminally stifled them for the remainder of this game. They didn't realise that there was now a vulnerability to Liverpool, nor did they realise that they have far more attacking options than just hitting it out to a Leroy Sane not at his liveliest. This was all a coach as sophisticated as Guardiola had?

City weren't able to raise it further. It said much that a very quiet Kevin De Bruyne was so frustrated he offered the type of foul that brought a booking. City could bring nothing else to the game. The inherent chaos to this Liverpool team will mean they won't consider qualification for the semi-finals any way secure, but their backline - and especially the brilliant Dejan Lovren - stood up superbly in the second half. City couldn't even reach second gear. Any celebrations for confirming first place in the Premier League on Saturday will feel that bit emptier, because Guardiola is now going to have second-guess himself so much for that.

There will be none of that with Klopp or Liverpool. They assuredly won with the purity of a team that just went for it, that played on their best qualities, and produced a night that will go down as one of the best even in this club's history.



ANFIELD OF DREAMS

THE history is only half written, but this night will go down in Anfield folklore. The night when Pep Guardiola's all-conquering Manchester City crumbled and their Champions League campaign went up in a cloud of red smoke.

Liverpool were too good, too fast, too dangerous.

Their famous old stadium came alive to revive memories of past European glories and inspire Jurgen Klopp's new generation of heroes.

Liverpool's tempo, midfield energy and attacking prowess were too much for City.

Guardiola's Premier League champions-elect were made to look ordinary. Mo Salah, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Sadio Mane scored in a breathtaking first half.

This was a reminder of the magic of one of European football's great cathedrals. The red-hot atmosphere and deafening noise intimidated City and they buckled.

Home fans lay in wait for the City team bus, showering it with bottles, coins and red flares as it arrived. City were given no peace inside the ground either, Liverpool tearing into them and the away end falling silent.

At the final whistle, Klopp and his players went to the Kop to celebrate, the Liverpool manager beating his chest in delight. The German had predicted this could be Liverpool's night and the team produced a performance worthy of the club's best European traditions.

It was a victory to give his men reason to believe they can go all the way. And this might prove to be their most significant result.

After all, Klopp hailed City as the best team in Europe and Liverpool blew them away with three goals in 19 minutes. The football was typically English, hell for leather and suited Liverpool. Guardiola's decision to pick Ilkay Gundogan ahead of Raheem Sterling was the City boss's equivalent of parking the bus and it handed the initiative to Liverpool. City looked pedestrian, Liverpool dominated. Salah put Kevin De Bruyne - his rival for the player of the year award - firmly in the shade.

If proof were needed to settle the argument over who is the best, perhaps Salah provided it on 12 minutes with his 38th goal of an incredible season.

James Milner played the ball forward down the right, Salah broke forward and released Roberto Firmino and City keeper Ederson made a brave block. But when Kyle Walker failed to clear, the ball broke loose in the six yard box.

Firmino's lay-off set up Salah and he smashed into the roof of the net.

Anfield erupted in a riot of noise. Eight minutes later, it got even worse for City.

Vincent Kompany fouled Firmino, German referee Felix Brych played an excellent advantage and Oxlade-Chamberlain hit a 20-yard screamer which flew past Ederson. And to think there are those who questioned why the Ox (right) had quit Arsenal. City had no answer, no reply and no clue.

Guardiola looked stumped on the touchline (left), unable to make any changes or

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tactical tweaks to stem the tide.
After 31 minutes, Salah turned provider. He had a shot blocked, retrieved the rebound and stood up an inch-perfect cross to the back post where Mane raced in to power home a close-range header.
The second half was a very king y different game, with City pushing forward looking for a precious away goal to give them a lifeline for the second leg.
Leroy Sane sprang to life on the left, while Liverpool lost some of their momentum when Salah hobbled off injured after 52 minutes.
But the home side held firm and the night belonged to Klopp.
The Anfield manager's anager's n remarkable hold over Guardiola has now seen him win seven of their 13 encounters, more than any other coach.
And this will go down as arguably the most memorable of all.



Nobody will doubt the power of Anfield again after Man City brought to their knees
The foolish labelled it a myth. They doubted the power of Anfield. They won't do it again after Manchester City were brought to their knees amid the cauldron on an unforgettable night. **Liverpool** have one foot in the semi-finals of the Champions League after humbling the Premier League champions elect and writing a new glorious chapter in the club's illustrious European history.
Here was fresh proof of Anfield's enduring ability to inspire those in red to remarkable heights and intimidate even the most star-studded opponents in equal measure. City owner Sheikh Mansour can afford most things but he can't buy passion like this. At the final whistle a beaming **Jürgen Klopp** strode on to the field to embrace his heroes and pay homage to those in the stands who had provided the exhilarating soundtrack to such a breathtaking triumph.
Klopp's pre-match clarion call for his players to be brave and for supporters to crank up the decibel levels was answered emphatically.
It was a frenzied bearpit and to a man Liverpool excelled. This was arguably the most complete performance of the German's reign. A shell-shocked City were outplayed, outfought and out-thought as Klopp put one over Pep Guardiola once again with a tactical masterclass. The Reds showcased their attacking brilliance during a stunning first-half burst when goals from Mohamed Salah, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Sadio Mane blew City away.
But arguably even more impressive was the discipline and the organisation shown to weather the second-half storm when the visitors rallied.
Pep Guardiola's expensively assembled frontline were nullified as Liverpool's backline excelled. City failed to muster a single shot on target. Fearless teenager **Trent Alexander-Arnold rose to the occasion** on the biggest night of his young career as he kept the dangerous Leroy Sane quiet. The boy from West Derby could hold his head high. The clean sheet was beyond Liverpool's wildest dreams ahead of next Tuesday's second leg. If anyone in Europe can come back from this sort of deficit it's Manchester City but if Liverpool score at the Etihad, City will need five and that's an unbelievable position for the Reds to find themselves in.
The only downside for Klopp was the sight of **Salah limping off and captain Jordan Henderson** picking up a late booking which will rule him out of the second leg.
The atmosphere was electric long before kick-off with the PA system drowned out by the deafening chants of 'Allez, Allez, Allez'.
'Liverpool FC European Royalty', declared one banner on the Kop. This was the Reds back where they belong and the air was thick with anticipation.
After a spine-tingling rendition of 'You'll Never Walk Alone' it was down to business. City bossed possession during a predictably frenetic opening spell but Liverpool kept their cool. Guardiola tried to target Alexander-Arnold with Sane flying at him but the 19-year-old kept winning that battle.
'Just like United, you live in the past', crowed the away end but they were soon silenced as the Reds struck with their first meaningful attack on 12 minutes.
It was a classic counter with James Milner's sweeping pass releasing Salah down the right. He picked out the run of Roberto Firmino, who cut inside past Nicolas Otamendi before forcing a sprawling save from Ederson.
The rebound dropped to Kyle Walker but Firmino picked his pocket and teed up Salah, who shifted it on to his left boot and hammered home his 38th goal of the season. City could have quickly restored parity but Sane ignored decent options either side of him and dragged wastefully wide.
Guardiola's men were clearly rattled with Ederson hoofing it out of play under pressure from the tireless Firmino. Energised by the breakthrough, Liverpool were hungrier, smarter and quicker in all departments. Henderson did the dirty work as he patrolled in front of the back four. Klopp's decision to leave out Gini Wijnaldum was vindicated as the outstanding Milner stamped his authority in midfield against his former club and Oxlade-Chamberlain drove forward with real intent and caused City a stack of problems. They combined for the second goal with Milner finding Oxlade-Chamberlain 30 yards out. He shifted the ball out in front of him and unleashed an unstoppable piledriver past the despairing dive of Ederson.
Anfield erupted. The roar was replicated when Milner dashed back to dispossess David Silva soon after. Liverpool were dominant and poured forward in search of greater reward. Alexander-Arnold whipped in a beauty which Otamendi unconvincingly cleared before Salah's mazy dribble bewitched Aymeric Laporte and Kevin De Bruyne. Just past the half hour mark it was 3-0. Salah turned provider

with an inviting cross to the far post which Mane gleefully nodded in.
The Kop were in dreamland. Andy Robertson was like a charging bull as he embarked on a 60-yard dash which ended with Fernandinho blocking his shot. That show of desire was replicated across the field.
The interval gave City the chance to regroup and they came out swinging. Liverpool found themselves pinned back early in the second half with Klopp's assistant Zeljko Buvac gesturing wildly on the touchline for them to push up and not drop so deep. The Reds weren't helped by the worrying sight of Salah going off with Wijnaldum replacing him as Oxlade-Chamberlain moved to the right.
The pressure was cranked up but the centre-back axis of Virgil Van Dijk and Dejan Lovren remained rock solid. Van Dijk showed why Liverpool broke the bank to buy him, while Lovren delivered the perfect riposte to his critics.
Alexander-Arnold showed maturity beyond his years as he repeatedly won duels with Sane down the flank. The teenager was also alert to hack De Bruyne's cross to safety before Silva could convert.
Ilkay Gundogan drilled wide before making way for Raheem Sterling, whose entrance was greeted with a cacophony of boos.
This was another miserable Anfield return for his growing collection. When he did finally get away from Robertson he scuffed wide from an offside position – much to the delight of the baying Kop.
Klopp introduced Dominic Solanke for the tiring Firmino as he sought an injection of energy for the final quarter.
Most of the young striker's best work was done inside his own half. It was all hands to the pumps as Liverpool fought to repel City's advances. The wall of noise ensured that weary limbs kept fighting.
Henderson blocked Fernandinho's strike and Lovren also put his body on the line. Liverpool kept digging deep. The concentration and focus was immaculate. When De Bruyne hacked down Mane it laid bare City's frustration.
This was the Reds' first Champions League quarter-final for nine years. Absence really does make the heart grow fonder.
City were humbled. Liverpool's love affair with the European Cup has been well and truly rekindled. The road that leads to Kiev is opening up.
MATCH FACTS
Liverpool: Karius, Alexander-Arnold, Van Dijk, Lovren, Robertson, Henderson, Milner, Oxlade-Chamberlain (Moreno 85), Mane, Salah (Wijnaldum 52), Firmino (Solanke 71).
Not used: Mignolet, Clyne, Ings, Masterson.
Manchester City: Ederson, Walker, Kompany (C), Otamendi, Laporte, Fernandinho, Silva, De Bruyne, Gundogan (Sterling 57), Sane, Jesus.
Not used: Bravo, Danilo, Stones, Delph, Bernardo, Zinchenko
Referee: Felix Brych
Goals: Salah 12, Oxlade-Chamberlain 20, Mane 31.
Bookings: Otamendi, Jesus, De Bruyne, Henderson, Sterling.
Man of the match: Trent Alexander-Arnold. Snuffed out the threat of Leroy Sane and excelled throughout

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Liverpool took a firm grip on their Champions League quarter-final as Manchester City were torn apart by a three-goal burst from Jurgen Klopp's side in the first 31 minutes at Anfield.

City's only Premier League defeat as they move to the brink of the title has been a 4-3 loss at Anfield in January - and they were made to suffer once more in the face of Liverpool's pressing, aggression and potent attack.

Mohamed Salah pounced in the area to score his 38th goal of the season after 12 minutes and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain doubled their lead eight minutes later when he unleashed a fierce shot past Ederson from 20 yards.

And the third goal that gives Liverpool such a commanding advantage to take to Etihad Stadium next Tuesday came just after the half-hour when Sadio Mane rose to head home Salah's cross.

Liverpool, potentially crucially, emerged from the second half without conceding an away goal, although an injury that forced Salah off will be a concern.

Anfield was at its most hostile - but there were unsavoury incidents before kick-off when fans outside the ground attacked and damaged the Manchester City team coach on its way into the stadium, prompting an "unreserved" apology from Liverpool and an investigation from Merseyside Police.

Klopp outflanks Guardiola again

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp had the better of his head-to-head meetings with Pep Guardiola before this game with six wins from 12 games - and he outmanoeuvred his illustrious counterpart once more here.

Klopp took this game, if not the entire tie, out of Guardiola's reach by sticking strictly to his instincts and the fiercely intense pressing style that so unsettled City in their only league defeat of the season.

Liverpool, in Klopp's trademark style, never took a backward step and have uncovered an approach that rattles City in a manner that has escaped pretty much all of Guardiola's opponents in this stellar season for his side.

They never allowed City to relax into their passing style, with the likes of David Silva in particular simply not afforded the time and space that has seen teams picked apart in their runaway league campaign.

And Klopp also has the attacking weapons that make Liverpool a team to fear in the shape of the potent triumvirate of Salah, Mane and the underrated Brazilian Roberto Firmino, a trio good enough to expose City's defensive flaws.

It was Firmino who picked City apart for the opening goal for Salah, while the Egyptian turned provider for Mane's header to put Liverpool three up before half-time.

Guardiola, meanwhile, had a rare night when his tactics went awry and his team selection was questionable.

Aymeric Laporte's selection on the left side of City's defence against Salah was always heavily laden with risk and so it proved as he struggled desperately to contain a series of Liverpool raids down his flank. He may have played with comfort against Everton's limp attack on Saturday but this was a different league. Most contentious of all was the exclusion of Raheem Sterling, in such wonderful form, to accommodate Ilkay Gundogan in midfield.

Sterling has suffered on previous visits to Anfield since his £49m move from Liverpool, becoming a target for sustained abuse from his former supporters.

Guardiola perhaps had that in mind when he made this surprise choice but City were left looking unbalanced. Gundogan, a fine player, was peripheral and it was no surprise when he was eventually replaced by Sterling.

This was not a good night for Manchester City or Guardiola. They will need a faultless one next Tuesday.

Sloppy Man City pay the price

Manchester City started well and in composed fashion as they attempted to douse the flames of a fiery Anfield atmosphere - but it all went wrong from the moment they conceded the first goal to the prolific Salah.

City's defence, so rarely put under stress this season, was a mess as Ederson saved from Firmino, Kyle Walker clearing the ball back into the Brazilian's path to set up Salah, whose finish was a formality given his form and confidence.

It gave Liverpool the perfect start and they doubled that advantage eight minutes later when James Milner nicked possession and City's rearguard inexplicably stood off Oxlade-Chamberlain, offering an open invitation he accepted by rifling a powerful rising finish past Ederson.

There must also be questions about how the diminutive Mane was allowed to rise with ease between Walker and Vincent Kompany to head Liverpool's third just after the half-hour.

City's normally precise attacking play was beyond them in the second half when they did finally claim the share of possession they craved as they attacked The Kop end.

They were able to fashion several dangerous positions but were sloppy and wasteful as Liverpool avoided any moments of serious anxiety.

Is this tie already decided?

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp was in celebratory mood after the final whistle as he applauded The Kop and whirled his fists in front of Anfield's giant Main Stand.

It was easy to see why - but Liverpool will be taking nothing for granted against a side of City's quality and attacking threat.

Liverpool, however, have secured the sort of result they would have dreamed of before kick-off with a three-goal lead to take into the second leg and that vital clean sheet to act as added insurance.

And, significantly, Liverpool have just the sort of attack to punish a team pushing for goals, as City will need to do next Tuesday.

Guardiola, whose team could clinch the title if they beat Manchester United at Etihad Stadium on Saturday, will not be giving this one up yet but City will need to be flawless in all the areas they were flaky here if they are to mount one of the great Champions League comebacks.

Man of the Match - Roberto Firmino (Liverpool)

Milner, king of the assists - the stats

Liverpool are unbeaten at home in European competition since October 2014 (0-3 vs Real Madrid) and have extended their run without defeat to 15 European games at Anfield (W10 D5).

Manchester City failed to direct a single shot on target in a game for the first time since 26 October 2016 (v Man Utd in the League Cup).

Pep Guardiola has enjoyed just one win in his past six meetings with Jurgen Klopp in all competitions (D2 L3), with Klopp registering more wins against the Spaniard than any other manager (6).

Liverpool are the top-scoring side in the Champions League this season with 31 goals.

Indeed, that 31-goal haul is the Reds' biggest tally ever in a single campaign in the competition.

18% of the goals Manchester City have conceded this season in all competitions have been scored by Liverpool (7/38).

Mohamed Salah has been directly involved in nine goals in his nine Champions League appearances this season (7 goals, 2 assists).

Overall, Salah has bagged 38 goals in all competitions this season; of players in Europe's big five leagues, only Cristiano Ronaldo can better that tally (39).

James Milner has registered seven assists in the Champions League this season, three more than any other player.

What next?

There is no shortage of big games coming up for these two sides.

Up next for Liverpool is the Merseyside derby, as they travel to Goodison to take on Everton on Saturday (12:30 BST) while Manchester City host rivals Manchester United at Etihad Stadium on the same day (17:30). A win for Pep Guardiola's side and they will be confirmed as Premier League champions.

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Match ends, Liverpool 3, Manchester City 0.
 90'+4' Second Half ends, Liverpool 3, Manchester City 0.
 90'+2' Raheem Sterling (Manchester City is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 90'+2' Foul by Raheem Sterling (Manchester City.
 90'+2' Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 86' Jordan Henderson (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 86' Raheem Sterling (Manchester City wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 86' Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.
 85' Substitution, Liverpool. Alberto Moreno replaces Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain.
 84' Offside, Manchester City. David Silva tries a through ball, but Leroy Sané is caught offside.
 82' Attempt blocked. Fernandinho (Manchester City right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by David Silva.
 80' Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 80' Foul by Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City.
 80' Sadio Mané (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 79' Attempt blocked. Fernandinho (Manchester City right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Kevin De Bruyne.
 76' Gabriel Jesus (Manchester City is shown the yellow card.
 76' Foul by Gabriel Jesus (Manchester City.
 76' James Milner (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
 75' Attempt missed. Gabriel Jesus (Manchester City right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Raheem Sterling with a cross.
 74' David Silva (Manchester City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 74' Foul by Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool.
 73' Foul by David Silva (Manchester City.
 73' Dejan Lovren (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 72' Attempt saved. Sadio Mané (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Dominic Solanke.
 71' Substitution, Liverpool. Dominic Solanke replaces Roberto Firmino.
 70' Foul by Leroy Sané (Manchester City.
 70' Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 69' Attempt missed. Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City header from the centre of the box is close, but misses the top left corner. Assisted by David Silva with a cross following a corner.
 68' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
 65' Offside, Manchester City. Kevin De Bruyne tries a through ball, but David Silva is caught offside.
 63' Foul by Fernandinho (Manchester City.
 63' Sadio Mané (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 63' Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 63' Foul by Sadio Mané (Liverpool.
 62' Offside, Manchester City. Fernandinho tries a through ball, but Raheem Sterling is caught offside.
 58' Attempt blocked. Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by David Silva.
 57' Offside, Liverpool. Andrew Robertson tries a through ball, but Sadio Mané is caught offside.
 57' Substitution, Manchester City. Raheem Sterling replaces Ilkay Gündogan.
 55' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Jordan Henderson.
 55' Attempt blocked. Ilkay Gündogan (Manchester City right footed shot from the right side of the box is blocked.
 55' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Trent Alexander-Arnold.
 52' Substitution, Liverpool. Georginio Wijnaldum replaces Mohamed Salah because of an injury.
 52' Attempt missed. Leroy Sané (Manchester City left footed shot from a difficult angle on the left misses to the right. Assisted by Fernandinho.
 50' Attempt missed. Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City with an attempt from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by David Silva with a cross following a corner.
 50' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Trent Alexander-Arnold.
 46' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain.
 Second Half begins Liverpool 3, Manchester City 0.
 45'+3' First Half ends, Liverpool 3, Manchester City 0.
 45'+3' Attempt missed. Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Mohamed Salah with a cross following a set piece situation.
 45'+3' Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City is shown the yellow card.
 45'+2' Foul by Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City.
 45'+2' Roberto Firmino (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
 45'+2' Offside, Liverpool. Jordan Henderson tries a through ball, but Sadio Mané is caught offside.
 45'+1' Attempt missed. Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left.
 44' Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 44' Foul by James Milner (Liverpool.
 41' Attempt missed. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Mohamed Salah.
 37' Foul by Gabriel Jesus (Manchester City.
 37' Andrew Robertson (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
 35' Attempt blocked. Andrew Robertson (Liverpool left footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked.
 33' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
 31' Goal! Liverpool 3, Manchester City 0. Sadio Mané (Liverpool header from the centre of the box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Mohamed Salah.
 31' Attempt blocked. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is

blocked. Assisted by Roberto Firmino.
 23' Foul by Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City.
 23' Roberto Firmino (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.
 20' Goal! Liverpool 2, Manchester City 0. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box to the top left corner. Assisted by James Milner.
 19' Offside, Liverpool. Jordan Henderson tries a through ball, but Mohamed Salah is caught offside.
 14' Attempt missed. Leroy Sané (Manchester City left footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by David Silva following a fast break.
 13' Foul by Nicolás Otamendi (Manchester City.
 13' Sadio Mané (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
 12' Goal! Liverpool 1, Manchester City 0. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box to the top left corner. Assisted by Roberto Firmino following a fast break.
 12' Attempt saved. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Mohamed Salah.
 11' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by James Milner.
 11' Fernandinho (Manchester City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 11' Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.
 8' Offside, Manchester City. Kyle Walker tries a through ball, but Leroy Sané is caught offside.
 8' Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City wins a free kick on the left wing.
 8' Foul by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool.
 6' Attempt missed. Vincent Kompany (Manchester City with an attempt from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by David Silva with a cross following a corner.
 6' Corner, Manchester City. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
 First Half begins.
 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.